

Evaluation of a Privacy-Preserving Thermographic Artificial Intelligence System for Fall Prevention: A Prospective Clinical Implementation Study

DR. CHU ACH, LEE C, YIP LM, HO L, LEE H, LOH A

KWONG WAH HOSPITAL • 2026

I have no relevant financial relationships to disclose

True Cost of Patient Falls

>2,000

Patient falls annually

7 days

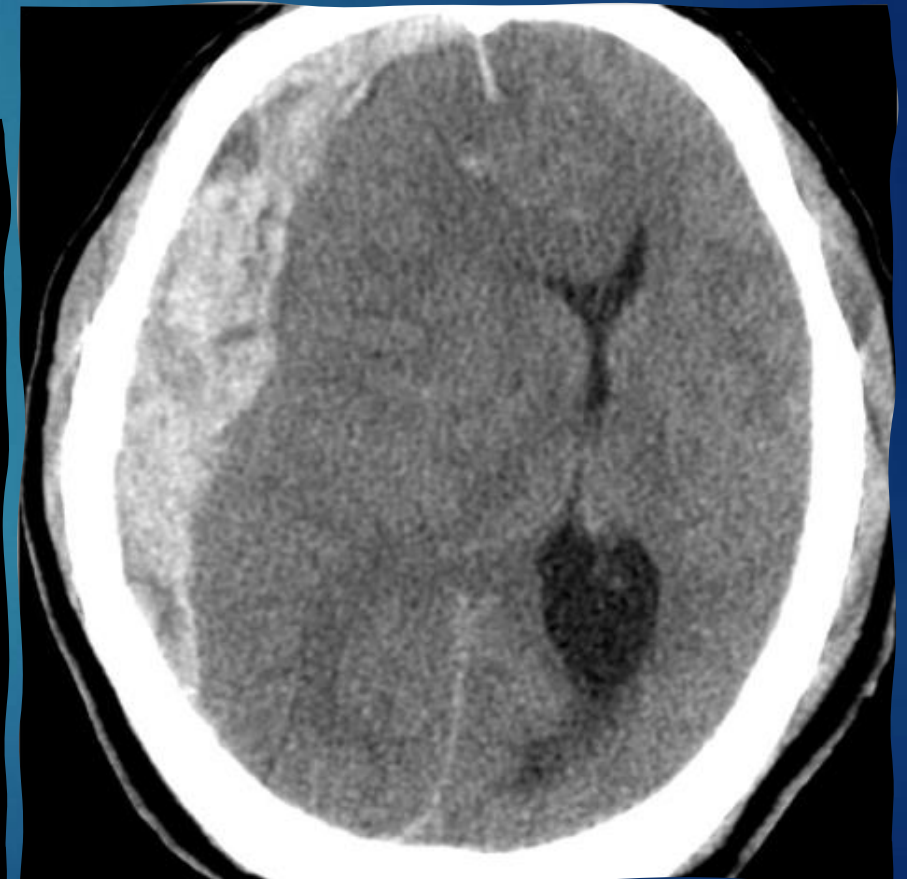
additional hospital days of
each fall-related injury



10-20%

of patients who fall
sustain major (SI 3) or
above injury

Fall related injuries



Risk factors of inpatient Fall

Extrinsic

- Slippery surfaces
- Bad lighting
- Inappropriate footwear

Intrinsic

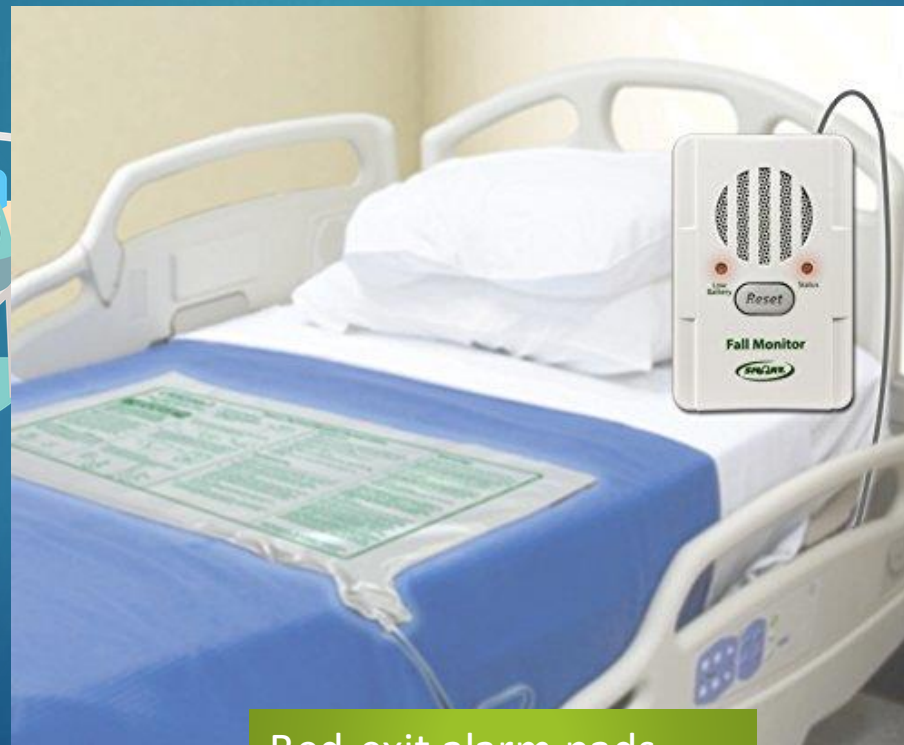
- Age
- Co-morbidities
- Impaired mobility
- Influence

Unassisted bed-exit

Current measures



24/7 supervision



Bed-exit alarm pads



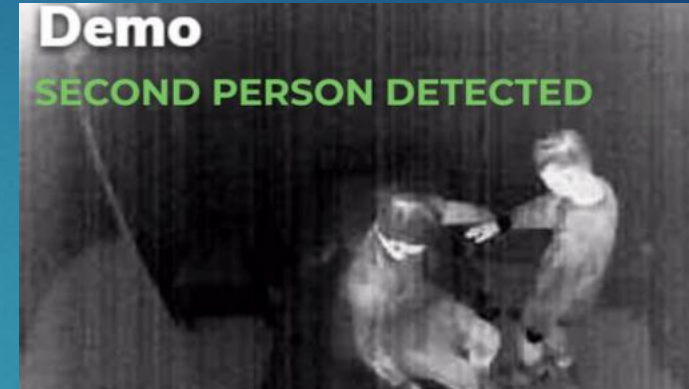
Physical / chemical restrain

Any smarter way?

AI Thermographic camera monitor



How it works



Staff attends the patient immediately, alarm off



Potential bed exit detected by AI



Alarm triggered

Advantages



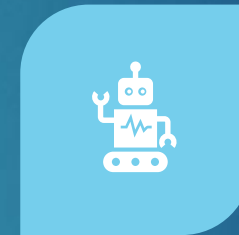
AI TO PREDICT
BED-EXIT



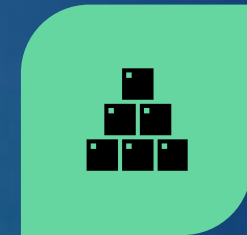
PRIVACY



CONTINUOUS
MONITORING



AUTOMATION



EASY
INSTALLATION

Alert situation

Bed-exit

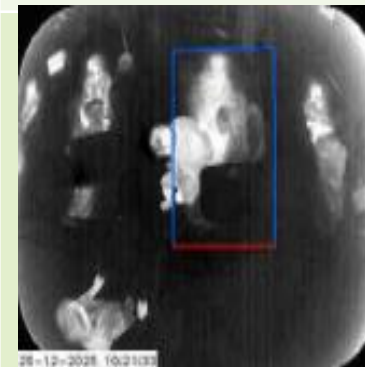
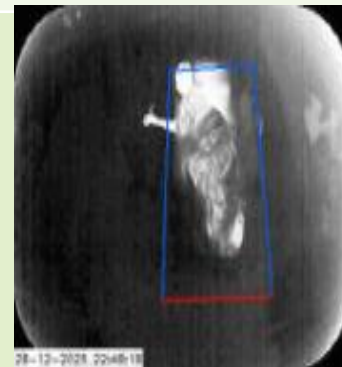
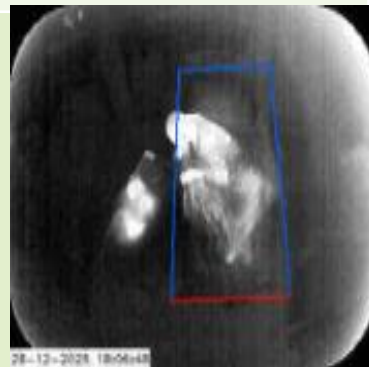
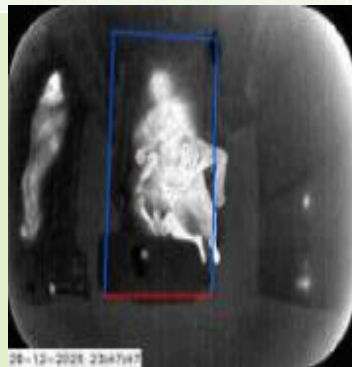
Dangerous Motion/Posture (about to exit bed)

Unassisted
bed-exit

Reaching
out dangerously
with risk of
rolling over

Limbs
extended over
rail with risk of
rolling over

Patient sitting at
the edge of the
bed with
significant
motion



AI TO PREDICT
BED-EXIT

- No patient-identifiable information



PRIVACY

- Thermography camera
- 24/7 operation



Afternoon

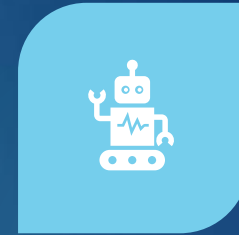
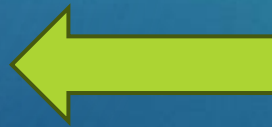
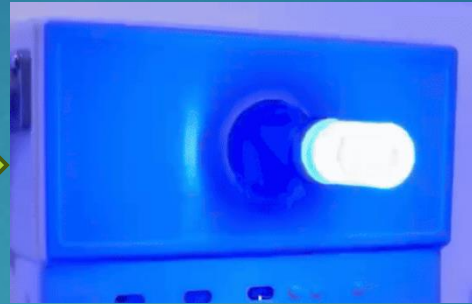
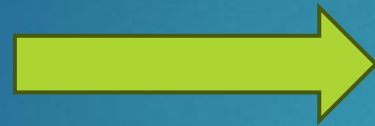


Midnight



CONTINUOUS
MONITORING

- Hands-free

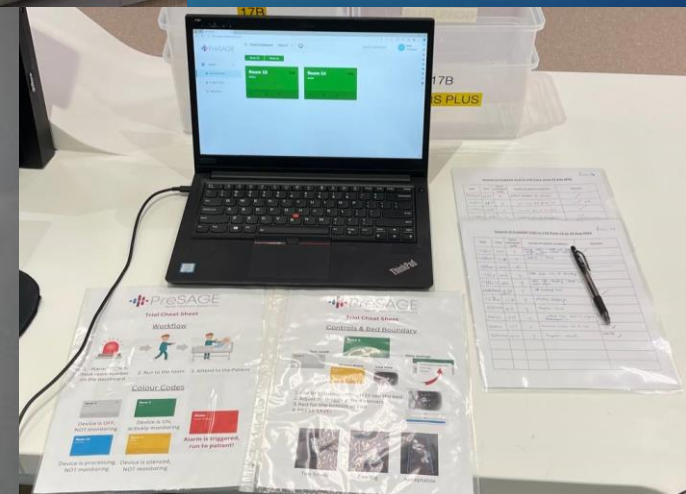
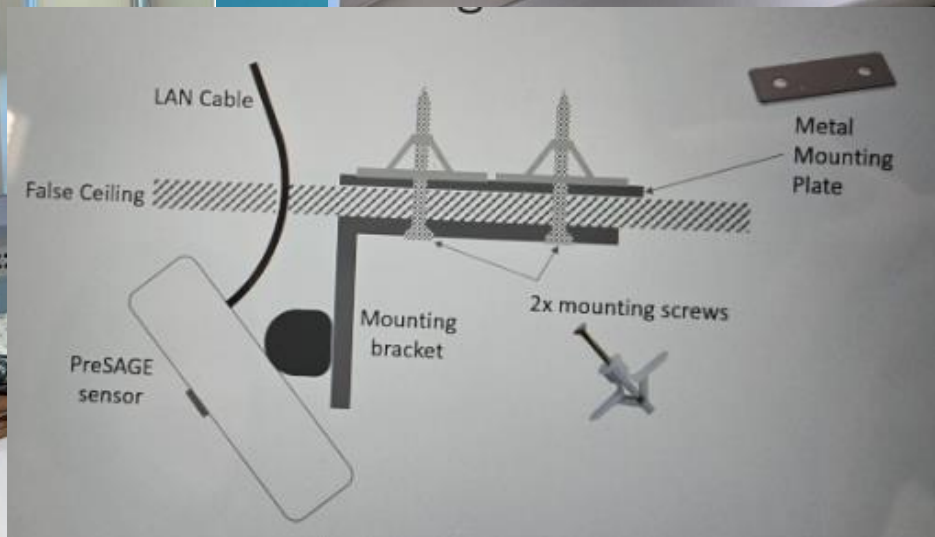


AUTOMATION

- LAN or WIFI



EASY
INSTALLATION



Study Design

- Prospective observational cohort study from Oct 2025
- 7 wards at Kwong Wah Hospital
- 18 devices above individual beds
- Patients with identified fall risks

Dept	Ward	No. of camera
M&G	17B	6
	16A	2
	5A	2
	15A	2
SUR	13B	2
ORT	14A	2
NS	14B	2
		18

Study Objectives

▶ Primary Objective

- ▶ Sensitivity for bed-exit event detection

▶ Secondary Objectives

- ▶ False alarm rate
- ▶ Nursing staff acceptance & satisfaction (5-point Likert-scale)

Results

18 devices	1,145 hours
Total	116 alarms

Interpretations	Alarm Count
Alert situation & alarm triggered	88
Non-alert situation but alarm triggered	28
Alert situation but alarm did not trigger	0

Sensitivity	False alarm rate
100%	24.1%

Case illustration



Staff's response

Respondents	Response rate
102 nurses	90.2%

Domain	Survey Item	Mean (out of 5)	Interpretation
Usability	System easy to use and operate	4.01	High
	Interface user-friendly	3.96	High
	Minimal training required	3.01	Moderate –high
Workflow Integration	System disrupted workflow (reverse-scored)	1.99	Minimal disruption
	Alerts added workload (reverse-scored)	2.04	Minimal burden
Implementation Support	Support hospital-wide implementation	3.89	High
Overall Satisfaction	Global satisfaction rating	3.96	High

Clinical Significance

- High sensitivity (100%) with manageable false alarms (24.1%)
- Privacy-preserving approach addresses ethical concerns
- Minimal workflow disruption
- Strong staff support

Limitations

- Device to patient 1:1
- 2nd person at bedside affecting monitoring

Way forward

- Longer prospective studies measuring impact on fall incidence
- Cost-effectiveness analysis



Thank you